Celebration of Life

Pastor Steven J. Thorner

JANUARY 6, 1956- DECEMBER 18, 2019

January 3 2020

10 o'clock in the morning

Old Path Miracle Cathedral COGIC
500 Arkansas Street, Vallejo, Ca 94590

OFFICIANT

Bishop Albert Galbraith, Jr.
Prelate, Northern California First Jurisdiction

The Order of Celebration

Celebration Expeditor
Superintendent Yaahn Hunter, 3rd Administrative Assistant, NCFJ

Musical Prelude

Processional

BISHOP, VISITING BISHOPS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS, EXECUTIVE BOARD, STATE OFFICIALS, SUPERINTENDENTS, ELDERS & THE FAMILY

Final Glimpse until Glory.....Alta Vista Cremation Services and Funeral Home
Sealing of the Bier.....Thorner Children

Preparation for Rest

The Adjutants

Prayer for Strength and Comfort.....Supt. Jeremiah Richardson, 2nd Administrative Assistant, NCFJ

Reading of the Holy Scriptures

Old Testament ..... Pastor Zerubbabel Campbell
New Testament..... Elder Harold Bates
Praise Medley .....Mass Choir

Statements of Tribute and Consolation

Jurisdictional Women's Department..... Supervisor Geraldine Campbell
Pastors..... Pastor Roderick Toliver, Sr.
Superintendents.....Superintendent Harold Johnson
Executive Board ..... Superintendent Dennis Johnson
Bishops .....Designee
Musical Selection Requested by Mom Milligan.....Pastor Albert Macklin
"I Don't Feel No Ways Tired"

The Order of Celebration, continued

Resolutions

Ennis Chapel.....Deacon Charles Lofton
Holy Ghost District.....Designee
Northern California First Department of Women..... District Missionary Patricia Collins
Northern California First Juridisction.....Superintendent P. Daniels Jefferson
Int'l Dept. of Evangelism, COGIC, Inc., Region 04 .....Designee

Worship In Song.....Mass Choir

Acknowledgement of Cards/Telegrams &
Reading of the Obituary .....Missionary Gisele Chilton

Worship In Song.....Mass Choir

Expressions (Reflections) of Family and Friends

Dr. Arelious Walker (Father In The Gospel)
Pastor Mark Bradley & Pastor Henry Washington - My Brother, My Friend
Sister Ada Chilton
Elder John Wright (Uncle)
Nathan Thorner & Deltrice Thorner

Presentation of the Messenger.....Superintendent J. Q. Jones
1st Administrative Assistant, NCFJ

Sermonic Selection.....Mass Choir

The Eulogy

Bishop Albert Galbraith, Jr.

Prelate, Northern California 1st Jurisdiction

Musical Recessional

The Obituary

Steven Jerome Thorner was born to his loving parents on January 6, 1956, in Little Rock, Arkansas. Steven began his school years in Little Rock. At the age of 8, the family relocated to San Francisco, Ca. There, he attended public schools and graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1973. After high school Steven was employed by his uncle as a driver for Precision Transport Trucking. In 1993, he became a barber, and shortly after, he partnered with Jordan Ross at their barbershop in San Francisco, which remains in the same location today with his son following in his footsteps. Steven was also employed by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency until he retired.

Steve met the love of his life, Lutishia D. Chilton, when he was 14, at True Hope COGIC. They were married on June 7, 1975. For almost 45 years, they loved and enjoyed each other and the favor of God on their life together. Steve and "Tish," as she is affectionately called, were blessed with two children: Nathan and Deltrice.

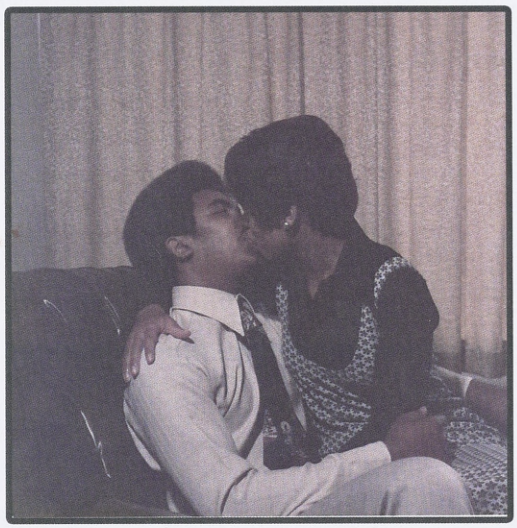
At the age of 14, his family began to attend the True Hope COGIC. While being taught in Sunday School by his father in the gospel, Dr. Arelious Walker, Steven accepted Christ as his personal savior and was filled with the Holy Ghost on the same day. As a result, he was a faithful member of True Hope COGIC. Steven was called to the ministry at the early age of 17 and there he began his ministry training under his pastor Dr. Arelious Walker. Later, he accepted his true calling in 1993, under the leadership of Superintendent Harold Johnson at the Old Path "Miracle Cathedral" Church of God in Christ in Vallejo, Ca. He often recalled that Sunday at Old Path, where the Lord reclaimed him. Invited that morning to service by his wife (after cooking him a big breakfast) he decided to attend service, sitting way on the back pew. The Evangelist Ron Smith was running a revival, and the message was "Go Back and Thank Him" in regards to the ten lepers. During the altar call, Superintendent Johnson approached him and said, "man, you look like a right shoe on a left foot." He was convicted and surrendered to the Lord. Immediately, Superintendent Johnson acknowledged the call on his life and welcomed him into the ministry. From then on, he was running for his life, and was faithful to the Old Path "Miracle Cathedral" Church and pastor. In 1995, Steven was ordained by Bishop B.R. Stewart as an elder in the Church of God in Christ. During his time as a member of Old Path, he served in various capacities. He became an assistant to Superintendent Johnson and ministered in revivals around the bay area with some of his "brothers" as Crusaders for Christ. Souls were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost.

In February 1999, Bishop Albert Galbraith appointed Steven as the pastor of Jerusalem Church of God in Christ in San Francisco. Shortly after, the Lord moved on him to establish his own ministry, the Community Church of God in Christ, also in San Francisco. The ministry later relocated to Vallejo in 2005, where they remained until August 2013. It was then when Bishop Galbraith appointed him as pastor of Ennis Chapel Church of God in Christ. After his appointment it was a merger with both ministries, which became the new Ennis Chapel COGIC. Pastor loved his church family and was very present in the lives of the saints. He was often found speaking into the lives of young men, many of whom felt like no one would hear them.

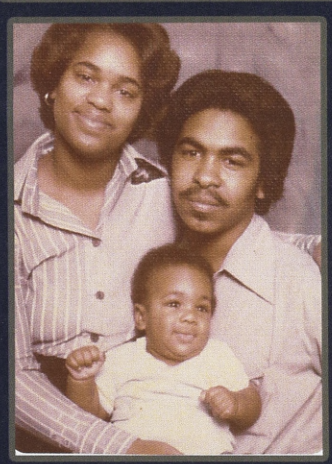
Pastor Thorner loved the word, he was an excellent teacher; he had a hunger and was eager to strengthen his biblical and theological knowledge. He decided to continue his education. He received his Bachelor's degree in Christian Education from C. H. Mason Bible College, under the leadership of the late Dean Eastman, and his Master's degree from Urban University. Finally, in June 2009, Pastor Thorner received his Doctorate in Theology from East Bay Theological Seminary, located in Sacramento. He published a book entitled In Search of a Man in 2013. Throughout his years of service in the church, Pastor Thorner held numerous positions supporting Northern California First Jurisdiction, including Executive Board Member, Assistant Secretary, Tithing Secretary, and Jurisdictional AIM Chairman. Pastor worked with Superintendent Jefferson in the Holy Ghost District. In 2018 he accepted Vice President of the Church of God In Christ International Evangelism Department Region 04 where he served faithful with the new administration reaching out to all 9 bishops of the area requesting support and where he received 100% response of their support. Thru this support, Region 04 came together in training, rallies, witnessing and revivals. Souls were saved and folks blessed.

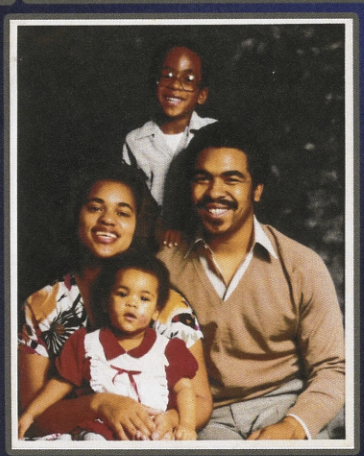
Pastor Thorner was dearly loved by his entire family, The Ennis Chapel Church family and many friends who could all count on him at any time. He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife of 44 ½ years, Lutishia; their children, Nathan (Samele) and Deltrice; Grandchildren, Kennedy, Nyah and Emmanuel "EJ"; His mother, Joyce Milligan; siblings, Judith Bell, Jacqueline Burns (David) and Karl Thorner (Diahana); sisters-in love, Rochelle, Darlene (Harold), Doris, Lalita, Cathy, and Ada; brothers-in love, Charles (Gwen), Michael and Darryl; he also leaves a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews relatives, and friends and the Ennis Chapel Church Family.

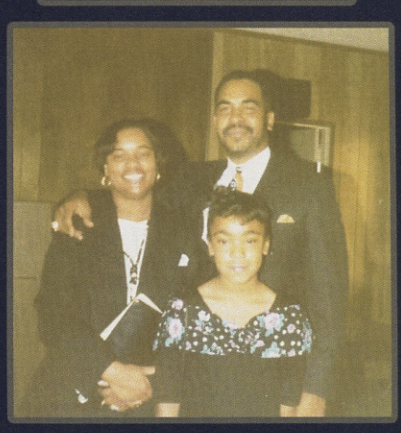
Loving Husband

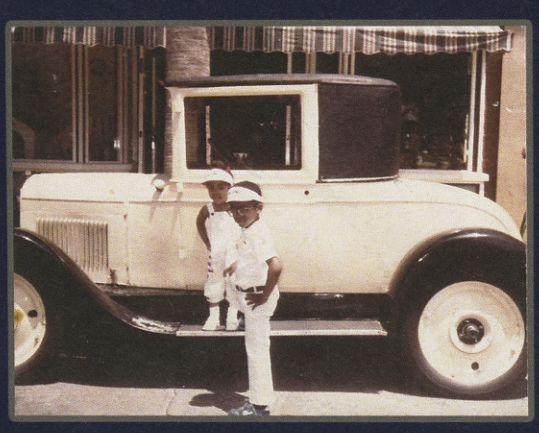


Husband, Father...





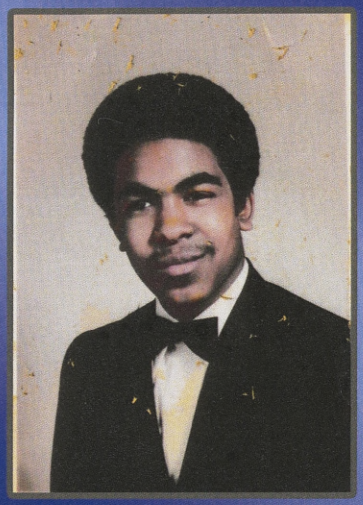


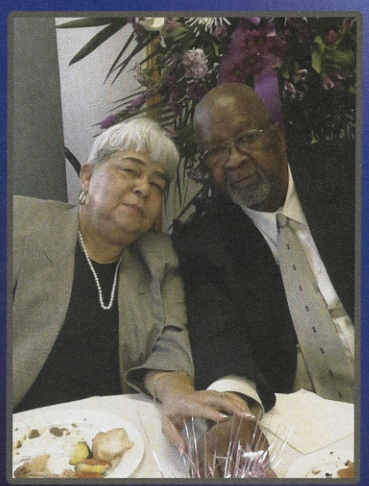


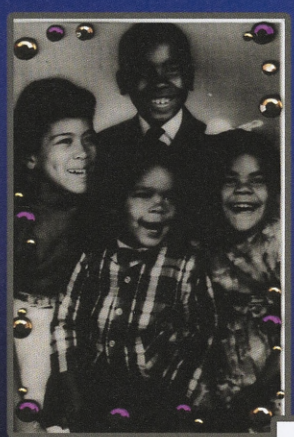
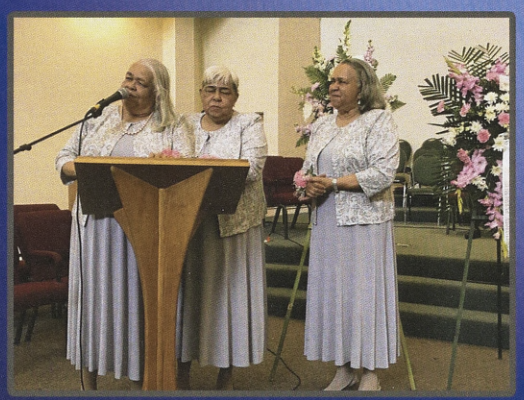
For you are my hiding place; you protect me from trouble.
You surround me with songs of victory. Psalm 32:7

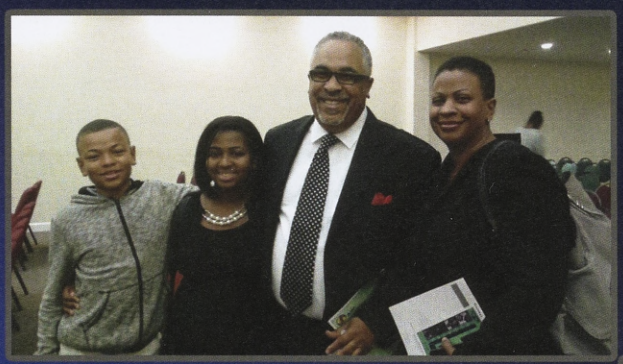
...Paw Paw

We Are ..



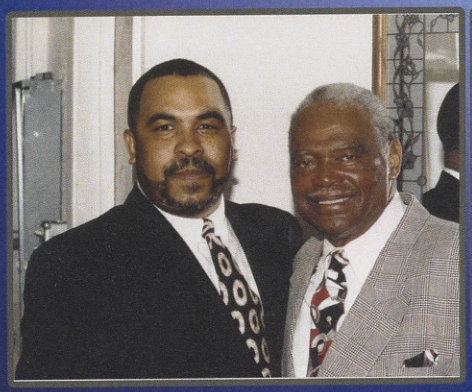


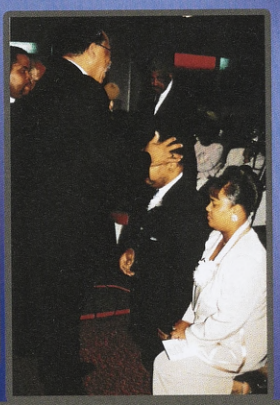


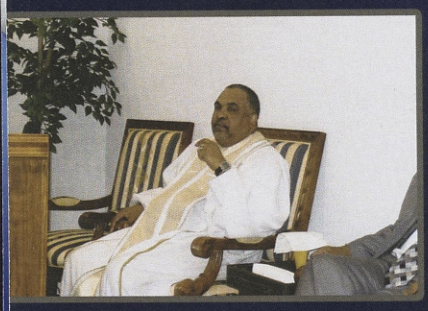


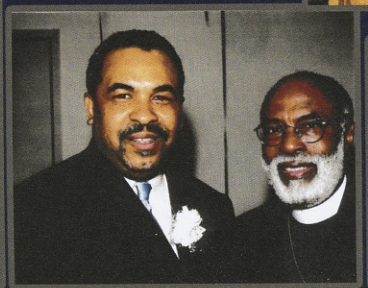
Family...

The Heart Of A Pastor









A Tribute To My Son

My Son, just looking through so many of your messages there is one entitled
"Submitting to the Divine Will of God", dated 1/8/2012.
Son...today we are submitting to the divine will of God.
Joyce, did you know your son would touch so many lives? Did you know he would lead so many to the Joy of the Lord; that he would bring so many comfort and hope.

You were called from the womb my son.
Exodus 13:12 "That thou shalt set apart unto the LORD all that openeth the matrix,".

No, your life was not a perfect life, but at the age of 17 you received your call to minister life and hope to those around you, through the finished work of Christ.

Thank you Lord for allowing me to be the vessel, the mother of this holy anointed and of God. As the eyes of the Lord ran to and fro throughout the earth my son and caused his favor to rest on you; my first born, my helper;
Oh yes you were a help, joy to your siblings, a great shepherd, lover of your family as well as your church family.
A man of integrity....honorable.

Weeping endureth for a night but Joy cometh in the morning.
..... until morning, sleep well my son.

He fought a good fight, he finished his course, he kept the Faith! Paraphrasing II Timothy 4:7 My big brother Steve, our leader, our mother's armor bearer, our baby sitter, our protector! He fought a good fight and God saved him from the wrath to come, he did not allow him to suffer a devastating death and for this I am extremely grateful. I will be constantly comforted by knowing he is at peace in mind, body, and soul. And, I pray God's guidance for my life and that I live my best life starting now, without hesitation or any reservations

Judy Bell

Missed

My brother, my friend, my protector for so many years, up until the day of your transition. I have so many fond memories of you. Thank you Tish for continuing to share our brother, uncle, great uncle with us. We miss him. I hate you caught the bus so early but I'll see you in the morning.

Your sister, Jacqueline Yvonne

My Brother

I remember my brother as a protector of his siblings Judy, Jackie and Karl. My brother loved to dress and I know he's wearing a beautiful robe in heaven.

Karl A. Thorner

Active Pallbearers

Deacon Charles Lofton

Deacon Charles Chilton

Darrell Chilton

Ezra Seymour

Pastor Roderick Toliver

Pastor Henry Washington

Jay Wright

Honorary Pallbearers

Nathan Thorner

Emmanuel "EJ" Thorner

D'Andre Chilton

Karl Thorner

Harold Bates, Jr.

Antonio Bates

Antoine Boykin

Branndon Thorner

Gregory Levingston

Rashad Chilton

Andre Chilton

McKinley Chilton

Ralph Bell

Jason Seymour

Ronnie Seymour

Our Appreciation and Gratitude

The Thorner Family would like to take this opportunity to express our sincerest appreciation for the thoughtfulness presented to us and the love we have been shown during our time of bereavement. We thank you very much for your kind expressions of sympathy and prayers. Words cannot express how grateful we are.

Interment

Rolling Hills Memorial Park
4100 Hilltop Dr, Richmond, CA 94803

Repast will be held at the
Vallejo Veterans Memorial Building, 420 Admiral Callaghan Ln, Vallejo
immediately following interment

Arrangements Entrusted to
Alta Vista Cremation & Funeral Service, Suisun City, Ca